



Experimental Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

18 April 2003

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

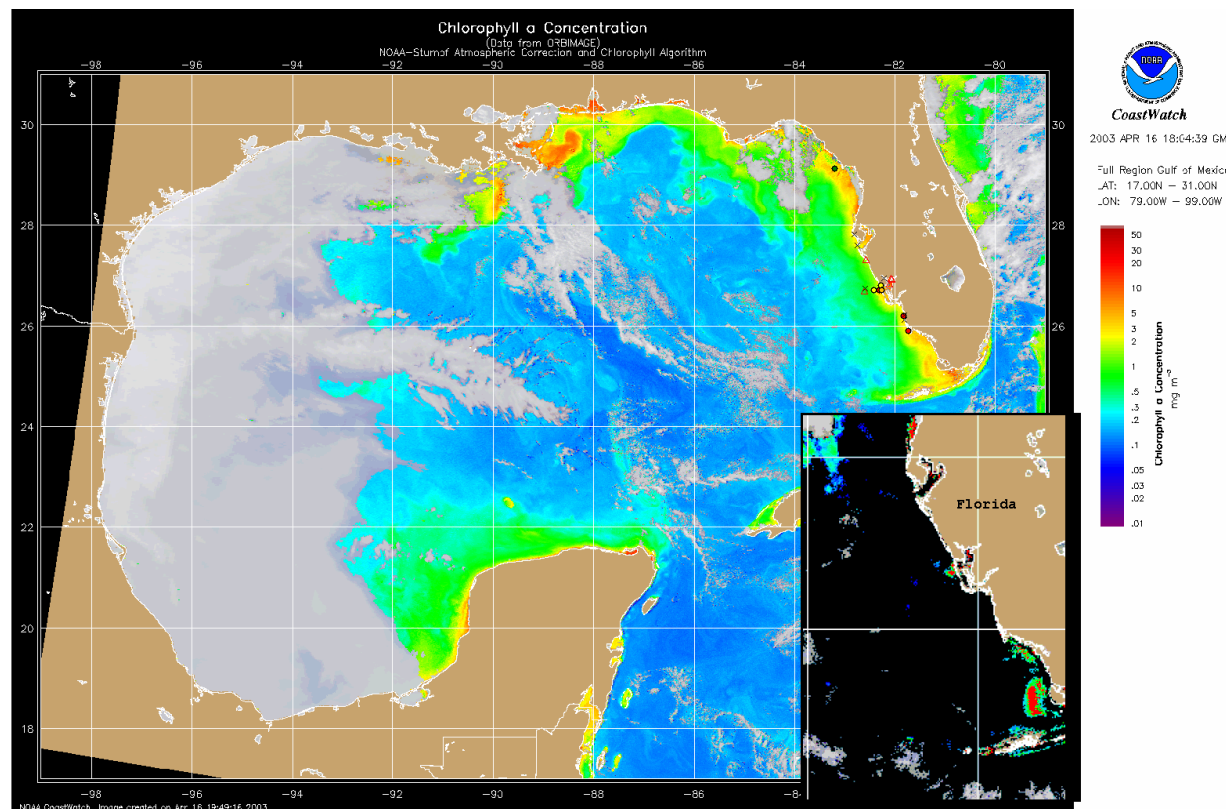
Last bulletin: April 9, 2003

Analysis

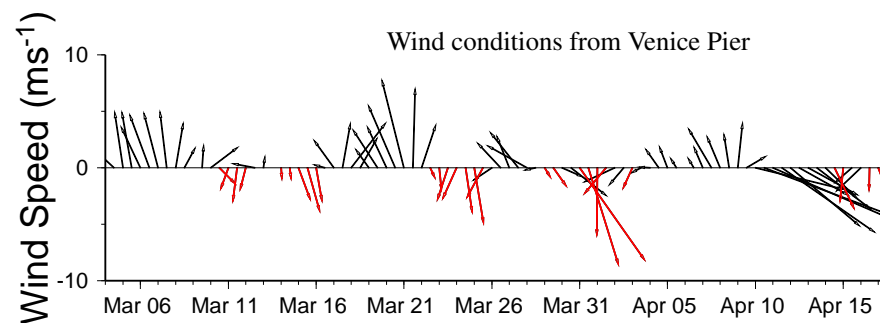
SW Florida:

The *K. brevis* bloom which extended from Venice to Ft. Meyers seems to be diminishing. Chlorophyll has dropped from 6-10 ug/L to below 1.5 ug/L in most areas. Imagery indicates an area outside Gasparilla Pass (extending offshore to 82d9'W, 26d31'N) where chlorophyll still remains high (above 4 ug/L). Observations taken on April 16, indicate that *K. brevis* concentrations have dropped to low levels except for inside Gasparilla Pass (medium levels).

The flagged region at Marco Island appears to be moving southward and extends to 81d29W and 24d59N. This bloom is not likely to be dominated by *K. brevis*. East to southeasterly winds are expected to persist through Monday, therefore southward movement is unlikely at this time.



Chlorophyll concentration (above) and possible HAB areas shown in red (inset). Cell concentration sampling data from April 9, 2003 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red circles (low), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on NOAA buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast.

Winds are predicted to shift from the north, to easterly by this evening. East to southeasterly winds are predicted throughout the weekend.

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